(ii) Sealed type samples of foodgrains from issuing lots of foodgrains are also supplied to State Governments by FCI so that these may be displayed in the Fair Price Shops.

(iii) Representatives of State Governments are allowed to check the quality of the foodgrains prior to issue.

Sufficient stock of foodgrains for doubling quantity of foodgrain under TPDS

514. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government holds suffi cient stock of foodgrains to double present quantity of ten Kg. per family per month under Targeted Public Dis tribution System to serve the poorer section of the society, if subsidy pro vided;

(b) whether Government is also considering to increase the allocation to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families from ten Kg. per family per month to twenty Kg. per family per month by excluding the non-poor families from the provision of PDS, at least as far as the foodgrains are concerned; and

(c) whether Government of Tamil Nadu is not expediting lifting of foodgrains allocated to it particularly the quota meant for below poverty line families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Lifting of foodgrains by the State Government, particularly the quota meant for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families has improved considerably in the months of August and September, 1997 compared to the lifting in June and July, 1997. Lifting of BPL quota was 36,870 tonnes (80.52% of the BPL allocation) in September, 1997 compared to 9,620 tonnes (21.01%) in June, 1997.

Foodgrains stocked by FCI

515. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rice worth Rs. 3.68 crore was found rotting at a FCIs godown in Delhi;

(b) if so, the total quantity of rice found to be not consumable for TPDS;

(c) the total quantity of foodgrains stocked in FCI godowns all over India, including the total amount of not consumable foodgrains which are rotting as on date;

(d) whether there was a gap of 18 percent between the procurement and disbursement of foodgrains by the FCI and that this 18 percent of foodgrains was lost in wastage; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government to prevent the wastage of foodgrains at FCI godowns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Medical fraud at Super Bazar

516. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the report appcarig in the Times of India dated 30th September, 1997 highlighting

medical fraud at Super Bazar, Delhi; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Super Bazar has informed that the Chief Vigilance Officer of the Super Bazar has been asked to investigate the matter. The Super Bazar has been asked to get the investigation completed early. If any lapse is noted on the part of the employees of the Super Bazar/suppliers, necessary action will be taken against them as per rules.

Demand of withdrawal of the Gur (Control) Order, 1997

517. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Joint Action Committee of Gur and Khandsari merchants has demanded immediate withdrawal of the Gur (Control) Order, 1997;

(b) if so, the grounds on which the said Order has been opposed; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Some merchant associations have represented to the Government regarding withdrawal of Gur (Control) Order, 1997. The request has been made for withdrawal of the ground that this Order is affecting the interests of Gur traders and also of the farmers.

(c) The Order has been issued after taking all the factors into consideration.

Investigation in the diversion of wheat scam

518. SHRI SOLIPETA RAM CHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether investigation in the wheat scam relating to diversion of wheat meant for the common consumer under the subsidized wheat supply scheme has been completed; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof and action taken against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) There is no investigation pending with regard to diversion the wheat meant for common consumer under subsidised wheat supply scheme as no such complaint was received. However, some complaints were received relating to the irregularities committed in FCI in open sale of wheat under Open Market Sales Scheme (Domestic), i.e. OMSS(D) during the last year. The complaints more investigated and action taken against the deliquent officials involved in irregularities. In addition to this, the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh, on a Public Interest Litigation delivered its judgement on 26.7.1997 directing the Deputy Commissioners in the States of Punjab and Haryana to prepare reports on the basis of records available in FCI offices and to make the same available to CBI within two months for further investigation and launching prosecution against the erring parties, if found necessary.

राज्य उपभोक्ता शिकायत निवारण आयोग के पास लम्बित मामले

519. **श्री शमशेर सिंह सुरजेवाला**:
श्री अजीत जोगी:

क्या खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मामले मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) राज्य उपभोक्ता शिकायत निवारण आयोग के